

10/518,002

**REMARKS**

Accompanying this response are copies of the five (5) foreign patent documents listed in the Information Disclosure Statements previously filed on December 15, 2004 and June 6, 2005, namely, JP-04119245 A, JP-2000291747 A, JP-2001082555 A, JP-2002323098 A and JP-2000234664, which were previously submitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, but apparently not received and/or substantively considered by the Examiner. As the necessary copies of these references were, in fact, timely sent to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (see return postcard confirming receipt of the submit references by the United States Patent and Trademark Office), the Applicant believes that all of the requirements of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) were, in fact, complied with and the enclosed five (5) foreign patent documents should be substantively considered at this time without payment of any additional fee.

However, in order to facilitate timely consideration of these five (5) foreign patent documents, accompany this response is a new form PTO/S8/08a form which lists those five (5) foreign patent documents not previously considered by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to consider all of this prior art upon reconsideration of this application. In the event that the Examiner believes fees are necessary for this art to be considered, please charge the same or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account (Account No. 04-0213).

The drawings are amended, per the attached Submission, to overcome a few noted informalities contained therein, e.g., the failure to show the rod, the free wheel, the drive on the same side of the housing, etc. The drawings are suitably amended to show these previously described and claimed features without entering any new subject matter. New Replacement Sheets of formal drawing(s), accompany this Submission, incorporate all of the requested drawing amendment(s). If any further amendment to the drawings is believed necessary, the

Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative of the Applicant to discuss the same.

The above newly entered/amended paragraphs of the specification provide a brief description of the newly entered drawings and enter reference numerals into the specification, identifying the previously described and claimed features recited in the original claims, to facilitate identification of those diagrammatic features now shown in the new drawings. Since ample support for all the entered Figures and specification amendments can be found in the originally filed specification and claims, the undersigned avers that none of the newly entered or amended paragraphs of the specification or the newly entered drawings contain any new subject matter.

Claims 22, 23, 25, 27, 32, 33 and 34 are then objected to for the reasons noted in the official action. The above requested claim amendments are believed to overcome all of the raised informalities concerning the claims in this case. If any further amendment to the claims is believed necessary, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative of the Applicant to discuss the same.

Next, claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for the reasons noted in the official action. The inadequate written description rejection is acknowledged and respectfully traversed in view of the following remarks.

The Examiner specifically takes issue with the language of claim 27, "... wherein the free wheelings are provided between the drive, the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh output shafts and the housing". The Applicant respectfully submits that this limitation is supported by the language of paragraph [039] of the original specification, where it is stated "... it is possible to provide additional free wheelings at each suitable position of the multi-step reduction gear ...". In addition, the paragraph even provides an example of such a suitable position, solely for the explanatory purposes. This example is disclosed as "... for example,

to be connected between a shaft and the housing or about two shafts if need be". In view of this, claim 27 is amended to now recited that "... free wheel is provided between at least one of the drive, the output, the third, the fourth, the fifth, the sixth and the seventh shafts (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) and the housing (G)". The Applicant therefore respectfully requests withdrawal of the raised 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, rejection.

Lastly, claims 22-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for the reasons noted in the official action. The rejected claims are accordingly amended, by the above claim amendments, and all of the presently pending claims are now believed to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention, thereby overcoming all of the raised § 112, second paragraph, rejections. The entered claim amendments are directed solely at overcoming the raised indefiniteness rejection(s) and are not directed at distinguishing the present invention from the art of record in this case.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claim 22 would be allowable and that claim is revised to overcome the noted indefiniteness rejection. The Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 22 is now in condition for allowance. In addition, the Applicant thanks the Examiner for also indicating that claims 23-26 and 28-42 would also be allowable. As claims 23-26 and 28-42 all depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claim 22, those dependent claims are also believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 22 is allowable.

If any further amendment to this application is believed necessary to advance prosecution and place this case in allowable form, the Examiner is courteously solicited to contact the undersigned representative of the Applicant to discuss the same.

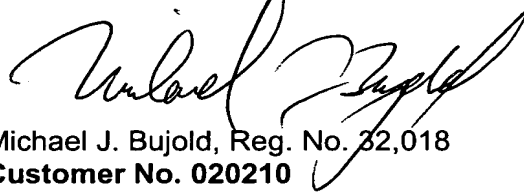
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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the raised rejection(s) should be withdrawn and this application is now placed in a condition for allowance. Action to that end, in the form of an early Notice of Allowance, is courteously solicited by the Applicant at this time.

The Applicant respectfully requests that any outstanding objection(s) or requirement(s), as to the form of this application, be held in abeyance until allowable subject matter is indicated for this case.

In the event that there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge the same or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account (Account No. 04-0213).

Respectfully submitted,



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